

SHREEVE HOUSE

130 EAST MAIN STREET

Facing the south side of East Main Street, the "Shreeve House" reflects at least two different 19th century eras, and is, therefore, a definite house of "transition". The core of the house was probably built in the mid 1850's in the then standard 2-story, 3-bay, 2-perpendicular section form. A generation or so later, around the turn of the century, its then-owner felt the need to be stylish, to bring this house up to date, and sought to achieve this effect by means of broad shingled gables within the house's north and west roofs.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Shreeve House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

130 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Carroll

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Estate of George F. Mathews

Telephone #:

848-5895

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Helen Mathews Smith

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 134

Folio #: 285

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Westminster Bicentennial

DATE

October, 1964

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Carroll County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Facing the south side of East Main Street (Md. Route 32), the "Shreeve House" reflects at least two different 19th century eras. "Originally", the house must have been one of the score of three bay - two and a half story - gable roofed homes that lined Main Street 100 years ago. Its Flemish Bond wall still rests between a low coursed fieldstone foundation and a simple modillion cornice, and is still regularly punctuated by six openings (three per floor). To the east is the entrance, a set of enriched double doors that sit above three stone steps, and below a large single-pane transom which, in turn, is topped by a scroll bracket-supported cornice. There are two double-hung sash windows to the west (with one pane per sash); windows have marble sills and three course gauged flat arches. Vertically aligned with ground floor openings are the three second floor 1/1 windows; the windows have arches similar to the ground floor windows', but have white wooden sills. The original green sheet metal roof was later altered by the insertion of a broad gable; the gable is covered with diamond-shaped shingles and has a set of double 1/1 windows. The upper sash of the windows has a small, center, clear glass, pane with eight stained-glass panes about it. Three brackets support a small cornice above the windows.

There is a southern section of the building that is about eight feet wider than the Main Street section; this extra breadth results in an overhang to the west, the northern front of which is covered in clapboard with a centrally placed 1/1 second-story window; a small brick one-story addition is to the north of the bulge; this is topped by a smaller scale version of the main cornice and has a 1/1 white wooden silled window topped by a 3 course gauged flat arch. In color, the north facade is very soothing - it (brick and shingle) is painted a pale yellow which is nicely set off by the white of the window trim and doors, and by the deep olive of the cemented-over foundation.

The west facade also is of several eras. The Main Street section is basically a continuation of the north front - it is laid in Flemish Bond, with two 1/1 windows (similar in treatment to those on the Main Street second story), to the north (one window per floor); the wall is topped by a continuation of the cornice. The original gable end of the roof has been transformed into a larger scale version of the Main Street gable: it has similar diamond-shaped shingles, but has a set of triple, not double, windows. (The windows are, however, identical.) There is a narrow 1/16 second story window (above the projecting brick box) used to light the stairs. To the rear is the long, green asbestos-covered, shed-roofed extension (gable to the south). The west facade of this is blind, except for two 2/2 windows (one per floor); to the extreme south, is what is probably a filled-in double tier porch.

The south front of this extension supports the idea that a porch once existed; there is a large proportion of glass, especially in the sec-

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1850; c. 1900 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Westminster has several "transitional" houses. That this is so, is probably explained by the fact that in domestic architecture, the City has such a definite, absolute, norm. In order to have a valid set of variations, there must be a well-established theme. It is probably the soundness of Westminster's basic home design, and the clear way it controls its offshoots that combine to produce the powerful sense of place that the City enjoys.

The "Shreeve House" was probably built just before the Civil War in the then standard 2-story, 3-bay, 2-perpendicular section form. As such, it would have little meaning. However, a generation or so later, its then-owner must have felt the need to be stylish. He apparently sought to be chic by plopping a shingle of broad gable into the building's north and west roofs, by placing groups of bracketed, stained-glass windows in their centers. The result, which creates a certain continuity between, say, nos. 131 and 172 East Main Street, is not disharmonious.

William Sullivan sold the land, lot 16 "in Westminster formerly New London" to Levi Shreeve on New Year's Day, 1831 for \$300 (Frederick County Deed Book JS 36, Page 50). Shreeve probably built the house at this time, destroying the cabin occupied c. 1830 by "Nancy Pinkney, colored" (Diary of Katharine Shellman). Ann Mathias bought the place on March 26, 1859 (25/215) and the chain of title then grows fuzzy. The 1887 City Directory lists W.L.W. Seabrook as living at 130 East Main; indexing reveals that Seabrook bought the lot from Henry Wampler on March 25, 1871 (39/329) for \$1991, but how Wampler took title is not clear. Nor is it clear how title became vested in William T. Kimmey, who sold to the present owner's father on May 20, 1919 (134/285). (A house such as this which clarifies the stylistic relationship among other houses in town ought to be allowed a mysterious past of its own.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being all of lot 16 as shown on a plat of the town of New
London.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

December, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

tion west of the central half-glass, two-panel door. Here there is a pair of 2/2 windows per floor. To the east, is a narrow 2/6 ground floor window, with a 1/1 window above. At sometime after the turn of this century, a 10' x 15' addition was thrown to the southeast - it has one 6/6 window on the second floor of its south facade.

The shed roof, sloping to the south, is covered in the same green metal as the Main Street section; it is broken, to the south, by a large gable with a central 6/6 window.

About 10 feet to the south of the southeast edge of the building is a one story board and batten 8' x 10' shed, resting on 6 inch brick piers. The shed is painted yellow and is covered with a tin gable roof (gable ends to the east and west). A tongue-in-groove door is to the west, held to the shed by large diamond-shaped hinges.



CARR 379

130 E. Main St.

Westminster

S. Juvenile

C. Welch 12/76

56%



B-12

CARR. 379

150 E MAIN ST.

no juvenile waterbirds

Eweh 2/77